## BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No. 2007-82

LAURA LEE ROBINSON aka LAURA LEE SCHUBERT 1521 Doris Lane Newport Beach, CA 92660

Registered Nurse License No. 539884 Public Health Nurse Certificate No. 59432

Respondent

**DECISION AND ORDER** 

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs, as it's Decision in the above entitled matter.

This Decision shall become effective on March 24, 2008.

IT IS SO ORDERED February 22, 2008.

President

Board of Registered Nursing Department of Consumer Affairs

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State of California

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Attorney General of the State of California MARGARET A. LAFKO Supervising Deputy Attorney General RITA M. LANE, State Bar No. 171352 Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice 110 West "A" Street, Suite 1100 San Diego, CA 92101  P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 645-2614 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061  Attorneys for Complainant	
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10	BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING	
11	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
12	STATE OF CAL	IFORNIA
13	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 2007-82
14	LAURA LEE ROBINSON aka LAURA LEE SCHUBERT	OAH No. L-2006120373
15	1521 Doris Lane	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND
16	Newport Beach, CA 92660	DISCIPLINARY ORDER
17	Registered Nurse License No. 539884 Public Health Nurse Certificate No. 59432	
18	Respondent.	
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21	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the	
22	above-entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:	
23	PARTIES	
24	1. Ruth Ann Terry, M.P.H, R.N (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of	
25	the Board of Registered Nursing. She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is	
26	represented in this matter by Edmund G. Brown Jr., Attorney General of the State of California,	
27	by Rita M. Lane, Deputy Attorney General.	, and the state of Camornia,
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- 2. Respondent Laura Lee Robinson aka Laura Lee Schubert (Respondent) is representing herself in this proceeding and has chosen not to exercise her right to be represented by counsel.
- 3. On or about January 21, 1998, the Board of Registered Nursing issued Registered Nurse License No. 539884 to Respondent. The License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 2007-82 and will expire on April 30, 2007, unless renewed.
- 4. On or about August 21, 1998, the Board of Registered Nursing issued Public Health Nurse Certificate No. 59432 to Respondent. The Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 2007-82 and will expire on April 30, 2007, unless renewed.

## <u>JURISDICTIO</u>N

5. Accusation No. 2007-82 was filed before the Board of Registered Nursing (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on October 12, 2006. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 2007-82 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

# ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 2007-82. Respondent has also carefully read, and fully understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel at her own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.

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1	8. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up	
2	each and every right set forth above.	
3	CULPABILITY	
4	9. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in	
5	Accusation No. 2007-82.	
6	10. Respondent agrees that her Registered Nurse License and Public Health	
7	Nurse Certificate are subject to discipline and she agrees to be bound by the Board's imposition	
8	of discipline as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.	
9	CONTINGENCY	
10	11. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board of Registered	
11	Nursing. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the	
12	4	
13	and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent. By signing the stipulation,	
14	Respondent understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind	
15	the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt	
16	this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall	
17	be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action	
18	between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having	
19	considered this matter.	
20	OTHER MATTERS	
21	12. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated	
22	Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same	
23	force and effect as the originals.	
24	<u>DISCIPLINARY ORDER</u>	
25	In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree	
26	that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following	
27	Disciplinary Order:	
28	<i>///</i>	

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Registered Nurse License No. 539884 issued to Respondent Laura Lee Robinson aka Laura Lee Schubert is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent's Registered Nurse License is placed on probation for three (3) years on the following terms and conditions.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Public Health Nurse Certificate No. 59432 issued to Respondent Laura Lee Robinson aka Laura Lee Schubert is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent's Public Health Nurse Certificate is placed on probation for three (3) years on the following terms and conditions.

Severability Clause. Each condition of probation contained herein is a separate and distinct condition. If any condition of this Order, or any application thereof, is declared unenforceable in whole, in part, or to any extent, the remainder of this Order, and all other applications thereof, shall not be affected. Each condition of this Order shall separately be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

1. Actual Suspension of License. Respondent is suspended from the practice of registered nursing for 1 year beginning the effective date of this Decision.

During the suspension period, all probation conditions are in full force and effect except those relating to actual nursing practice. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

2. **Obey All Laws.** Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws. A full and detailed account of any and all violations of law shall be reported by Respondent to the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of occurrence. To permit monitoring of compliance with this condition, Respondent shall submit completed fingerprint forms and fingerprint fees within 45 days of the effective date of the decision, unless previously submitted as part of the licensure application process.

Criminal Court Orders: If Respondent is under criminal court orders, including probation or parole, and the order is violated, this shall be deemed a violation of these probation conditions, and may result in the filing of an accusation and/or petition to revoke probation.

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3. Comply with the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall fully comply with the conditions of the Probation Program established by the Board and cooperate with representatives of the Board in its monitoring and investigation of the Respondent's compliance with the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall inform the Board in writing within no more than 15 days of any address change and shall at all times maintain an active, current license status with the Board, including during any period of suspension.

Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's license shall be fully restored.

- 4. **Report in Person.** Respondent, during the period of probation, shall appear in person at interviews/meetings as directed by the Board or its designated representatives.
- 5. Residency, Practice, or Licensure Outside of State. Periods of residency or practice as a registered nurse outside of California shall not apply toward a reduction of this probation time period. Respondent's probation is tolled, if and when she resides outside of California. Respondent must provide written notice to the Board within 15 days of any change of residency or practice outside the state, and within 30 days prior to re-establishing residency or returning to practice in this state.

Respondent shall provide a list of all states and territories where she has ever been licensed as a registered nurse, vocational nurse, or practical nurse. Respondent shall further provide information regarding the status of each license and any changes in such license status during the term of probation. Respondent shall inform the Board if she applies for or obtains a new nursing license during the term of probation.

6. Submit Written Reports. Respondent, during the period of probation, shall submit or cause to be submitted such written reports/declarations and verification of actions under penalty of perjury, as required by the Board. These reports/declarations shall contain statements relative to Respondent's compliance with all the conditions of the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall immediately execute all release of information forms as may be required by the Board or its representatives.

Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to the nursing regulatory agency in every state and territory in which she has a registered nurse license.

7. **Function as a Registered Nurse.** Respondent, during the period of probation, shall engage in the practice of registered nursing in California for a minimum of 24 hours per week for 6 consecutive months or as determined by the Board.

For purposes of compliance with the section, "engage in the practice of registered nursing" may include, when approved by the Board, volunteer work as a registered nurse, or work in any non-direct patient care position that requires licensure as a registered nurse.

The Board may require that advanced practice nurses engage in advanced practice nursing for a minimum of 24 hours per week for 6 consecutive months or as determined by the Board.

If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term, and Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of her good faith efforts to comply with this condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the Board, in its discretion, may grant an extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in order to comply with this condition. During the one year extension, all original conditions of probation shall apply.

8. **Employment Approval and Reporting Requirements.** Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before commencing or continuing any employment, paid or voluntary, as a registered nurse. Respondent shall cause to be submitted to the Board all performance evaluations and other employment related reports as a registered nurse upon request of the Board.

Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to her employer and immediate supervisors prior to commencement of any nursing or other health care related employment.

In addition to the above, Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after she obtains any nursing or other health care related employment. Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after she is terminated or separated, regardless of cause, from any nursing, or other health care related

employment with a full explanation of the circumstances surrounding the termination or separation.

9. **Supervision.** Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board regarding Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration before commencing or continuing any employment as a registered nurse, or education and training that includes patient care.

Respondent shall practice only under the direct supervision of a registered nurse in good standing (no current discipline) with the Board of Registered Nursing, unless alternative methods of supervision and/or collaboration (e.g., with an advanced practice nurse or physician) are approved.

Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration may include, but is not limited to the following:

- (a) Maximum The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is present in the patient care area or in any other work setting at all times.
- (b) Moderate The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is in the patient care unit or in any other work setting at least half the hours Respondent works.
- (c) Minimum The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration has person-to-person communication with Respondent at least twice during each shift worked.
- (d) Home Health Care If Respondent is approved to work in the home health care setting, the individual providing supervision and/or collaboration shall have person-to-person communication with Respondent as required by the Board each work day. Respondent shall maintain telephone or other telecommunication contact with the individual providing supervision and/or collaboration as required by the Board during each work day. The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration shall conduct, as required by the Board, periodic, on-site visits to patients' homes visited by Respondent with or without Respondent present.
- 10. **Employment Limitations.** Respondent shall not work for a nurse's registry, in any private duty position as a registered nurse, a temporary nurse placement agency, a traveling nurse, or for an in-house nursing pool.

Respondent shall not work for a licensed home health agency as a visiting nurse unless the registered nursing supervision and other protections for home visits have been approved by the Board. Respondent shall not work in any other registered nursing occupation where home visits are required.

Respondent shall not work in any health care setting as a supervisor of registered nurses. The Board may additionally restrict Respondent from supervising licensed vocational nurses and/or unlicensed assistive personnel on a case-by-case basis.

Respondent shall not work as a faculty member in an approved school of nursing or as an instructor in a Board approved continuing education program.

Respondent shall work only on a regularly assigned, identified and predetermined worksite(s) and shall not work in a float capacity.

If Respondent is working or intends to work in excess of 40 hours per week, the Board may request documentation to determine whether there should be restrictions on the hours of work.

11. **Complete a Nursing Course(s).** Respondent, at her own expense, shall enroll and successfully complete a course(s) relevant to the practice of registered nursing no later than six months prior to the end of her probationary term.

Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before enrolling in the course(s). Respondent shall submit to the Board the original transcripts or certificates of completion for the above required course(s). The Board shall return the original documents to Respondent after photocopying them for its records.

12. **Cost Recovery.** Respondent shall pay to the Board costs associated with its investigation and enforcement pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3 in the reduced amount of \$3,681.00. Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the Board, with payments to be completed no later than three months prior to the end of the probation term.

If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term, and Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of her good faith efforts to comply with

 this condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the Board, in its discretion, may grant an extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in order to comply with this condition. During the one year extension, all original conditions of probation will apply.

13. Violation of Probation. If Respondent violates the conditions of her probation, the Board after giving Respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may set aside the stay order and impose the stayed discipline (revocation) of Respondent's license.

If during the period of probation, an accusation or petition to revoke probation has been filed against Respondent's license or the Attorney General's Office has been requested to prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation against Respondent's license, the probationary period shall automatically be extended and shall not expire until the accusation or petition has been acted upon by the Board.

14. License Surrender. During Respondent's term of probation, if she ceases practicing due to retirement, health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy the conditions of probation, Respondent may surrender her license to the Board. The Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion whether to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate and reasonable under the circumstances, without further hearing. Upon formal acceptance of the tendered license and wall certificate, Respondent will no longer be subject to the conditions of probation.

Surrender of Respondent's license shall be considered a disciplinary action and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board. A registered nurse whose license has been surrendered may petition the Board for reinstatement no sooner than the following minimum periods from the effective date of the disciplinary decision:

- (1) Two years for reinstatement of a license that was surrendered for any reason other than a mental or physical illness; or
  - (2) One year for a license surrendered for a mental or physical illness.
- 15. **Physical Examination.** Within 45 days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent, at her expense, shall have a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or

physician assistant, who is approved by the Board before the assessment is performed, submit an assessment of the Respondent's physical condition and capability to perform the duties of a registered nurse. Such an assessment shall be submitted in a format acceptable to the Board. If medically determined, a recommended treatment program will be instituted and followed by the Respondent with the physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant providing written reports to the Board on forms provided by the Board.

If Respondent is determined to be unable to practice safely as a registered nurse, the licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant making this determination shall immediately notify the Board and Respondent by telephone, and the Board shall request that the Attorney General's office prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation. Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board. During this period of suspension, Respondent shall not engage in any practice for which a license issued by the Board is required until the Board has notified Respondent that a medical determination permits Respondent to resume practice. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

If Respondent fails to have the above assessment submitted to the Board within the 45-day requirement, Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period. The Board may waive or postpone this suspension only if significant, documented evidence of mitigation is provided. Such evidence must establish good faith efforts by Respondent to obtain the assessment, and a specific date for compliance must be provided. Only one such waiver or extension may be permitted.

Dependence. Respondent, at her expense, shall successfully complete during the probationary period or shall have successfully completed prior to commencement of probation a Board-approved treatment/rehabilitation program of at least six months duration. As required, reports shall be submitted by the program on forms provided by the Board. If Respondent has not completed a Board-approved treatment/rehabilitation program prior to commencement of

probation, Respondent, within 45 days from the effective date of the decision, shall be enrolled in a program. If a program is not successfully completed within the first nine months of probation, the Board shall consider Respondent in violation of probation.

Based on Board recommendation, each week Respondent shall be required to attend at least one, but no more than five 12-step recovery meetings or equivalent (e.g., Narcotics Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous, etc.) and a nurse support group as approved and directed by the Board. If a nurse support group is not available, an additional 12-step meeting or equivalent shall be added. Respondent shall submit dated and signed documentation confirming such attendance to the Board during the entire period of probation. Respondent shall continue with the recovery plan recommended by the treatment/rehabilitation program or a licensed mental health examiner and/or other ongoing recovery groups.

shall completely abstain from the possession, injection or consumption by any route of all controlled substances and all psychotropic (mood altering) drugs, including alcohol, except when the same are ordered by a health care professional legally authorized to do so as part of documented medical treatment. Respondent shall have sent to the Board, in writing and within fourteen (14) days, by the prescribing health professional, a report identifying the medication, dosage, the date the medication was prescribed, the Respondent's prognosis, the date the medication will no longer be required, and the effect on the recovery plan, if appropriate.

Respondent shall identify for the Board a single physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant who shall be aware of Respondent's history of substance abuse and will coordinate and monitor any prescriptions for Respondent for dangerous drugs, controlled substances or mood-altering drugs. The coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant shall report to the Board on a quarterly basis Respondent's compliance with this condition. If any substances considered addictive have been prescribed, the report shall identify a program for the time limited use of any such substances.

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The Board may require the single coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant to be a specialist in addictive medicine, or to consult with a specialist in addictive medicine.

participate in a random, biological fluid testing or a drug screening program which the Board approves. The length of time and frequency will be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent is responsible for keeping the Board informed of Respondent's current telephone number at all times. Respondent shall also ensure that messages may be left at the telephone number when she is not available and ensure that reports are submitted directly by the testing agency to the Board, as directed. Any confirmed positive finding shall be reported immediately to the Board by the program and Respondent shall be considered in violation of probation.

In addition, Respondent, at any time during the period of probation, shall fully cooperate with the Board or any of its representatives, and shall, when requested, submit to such tests and samples as the Board or its representatives may require for the detection of alcohol, narcotics, hypnotics, dangerous drugs, or other controlled substances.

If Respondent has a positive drug screen for any substance not legally authorized and not reported to the coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, and the Board files a petition to revoke probation or an accusation, the Board may suspend Respondent from practice pending the final decision on the petition to revoke probation or the accusation. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

If Respondent fails to participate in a random, biological fluid testing or drug screening program within the specified time frame, Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board. After taking into account documented evidence of mitigation, if the Board files a petition to revoke probation or an accusation, the Board may suspend Respondent from practice pending the final decision on the petition to revoke probation or the accusation. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

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19. **Mental Health Examination.** Respondent shall, within 45 days of the effective date of this Decision, have a mental health examination including psychological testing as appropriate to determine her capability to perform the duties of a registered nurse. The examination will be performed by a psychiatrist, psychologist or other licensed mental health practitioner approved by the Board. The examining mental health practitioner will submit a written report of that assessment and recommendations to the Board. All costs are the responsibility of Respondent. Recommendations for treatment, therapy or counseling made as a result of the mental health examination will be instituted and followed by Respondent.

If Respondent is determined to be unable to practice safely as a registered nurse, the licensed mental health care practitioner making this determination shall immediately notify the Board and Respondent by telephone, and the Board shall request that the Attorney General's office prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation. Respondent shall immediately cease practice and may not resume practice until notified by the Board. During this period of suspension, Respondent shall not engage in any practice for which a license issued by the Board is required, until the Board has notified Respondent that a mental health determination permits Respondent to resume practice. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

If Respondent fails to have the above assessment submitted to the Board within the 45-day requirement, Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period. The Board may waive or postpone this suspension only if significant, documented evidence of mitigation is provided. Such evidence must establish good faith efforts by Respondent to obtain the assessment, and a specific date for compliance must be provided. Only one such waiver or extension may be permitted.

20. Therapy or Counseling Program. Respondent, at her expense, shall participate in an on-going counseling program until such time as the Board releases her from this requirement and only upon the recommendation of the counselor. Written progress reports from the counselor will be required at various intervals.

## 1 **ACCEPTANCE** 2 I have carefully read the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Registered Nurse License and Public 3 Health Nurse Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order 4 voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the 5 6 Board of Registered Nursing. 7 DATED: 8 9 10 Respondent 11 12 13 **ENDORSEMENT** 14 The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully submitted for consideration by the Board of Registered Nursing of the Department of Consumer 15 Affairs. 16 ly 31, 2007 17 DATED: < 18 EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Attorney General of the State of California 19 20 21 22 Deputy Attorney General 23 Attorneys for Complainant 24 25 DOJ Matter ID: SD2006801119 80121780.wpd 26

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Exhibit A
Accusation No. 2007-82

1	BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General	
2	of the State of California MARGARET A. LAFKO, State Bar No. 105921	
3	Lead Supervising Deputy Attorney General RITA M. LANE, State Bar No. 171352	
4	Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice	
5	110 West "A" Street, Suite 1100 San Diego, CA 92101	
6	P.O. Box 85266	
7	San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 645-2614	
8	Facsimile: (619) 645-2061	
9	Attorneys for Complainant	
10	BEFORE 3	ГНЕ
11	BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING	
12	STATE OF CAL	IFORNIA
13	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 2007 - 82
14	LAURA LEE ROBINSON, a.k.a. LAURA LEE SCHUBERT	ACCHICATION
15	1521 Doris Lane Newport Beach CA 92660	ACCUSATION
16	and 118 Ambroise	
17	Newport Coast, CA 92657	
18	Registered Nurse License No. 539884 Public Health Nurse Certificate No. 59432	
19	Respondent.	
20	- Respondent.	
21	Complainant alleges:	
22	<u>PARTIE</u>	<u>S</u>
23	1. Ruth Ann Terry, M.P.H., R.N.	("Complainant") brings this Accusation
24	solely in her official capacity as the Executive Office	r of the Board of Registered Nursing
25	("Board"), Department of Consumer Affairs.	
26	Registered Nurse License No. 53988	4
27		the Board issued Registered Nurse License
28	Number 539884 to Laura Lee Robinson, also known	as Laura Lee Schubert ("Respondent")

Respondent's registered nurse license was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on April 30, 2007, unless renewed.

## Public Health Nurse Certificate No. 59432

3. On or about August 21, 1998, the Board issued Public Health Nurse Certificate Number 59432 to Respondent. Respondent's public health nurse certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on April 30, 2007, unless renewed.

## **STATUTORY PROVISIONS**

- 4. Business and Professions Code ("Code") section 2750 provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensee, including a licensee holding a temporary or an inactive license, for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act.
- 5. Code section 2764 provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee or to render a decision imposing discipline on the license. Under Code section 2811, subdivision (b), the Board may renew an expired license at any time within eight years after the expiration.
- 6. Code section 2761, subdivision (a), states that the Board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse or deny an application for a certificate or license for unprofessional conduct.
  - 7. Code section 2762 states, in pertinent part:

In addition to other acts constituting unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter [the Nursing Practice Act], it is unprofessional conduct for a person licensed under this chapter to do any of the following:

- (a) Obtain or possess in violation of law, or prescribe, or except as directed by a licensed physician and surgeon, dentist, or podiatrist administer to himself or herself, or furnish or administer to another, any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code or any dangerous drug or dangerous device as defined in Section 4022.
- (b) Use any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code, or any

dangerous drug or dangerous device as defined in Section 4022, or alcoholic beverages, to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to himself or herself, any other person, or the public or to the extent that such use impairs his or her ability to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by his or her license.

. . . .

(e) Falsify, or make grossly incorrect, grossly inconsistent, or unintelligible entries in any hospital, patient, or other record pertaining to the substances described in subdivision (a) of this section.

## 8. Code section 2770.11 states:

- (a) Each registered nurse who requests participation in a diversion program shall agree to cooperate with the rehabilitation program designed by a committee. Any failure to comply with the provisions of a rehabilitation program may result in termination of the registered nurse's participation in a program. The name and license number of a registered nurse who is terminated for any reason, other than successful completion, shall be reported to the board's enforcement program.
- (b) If a committee determines that a registered nurse, who is denied admission into the program or terminated from the program, presents a threat to the public or his or her own health and safety, the committee shall report the name and license number, along with a copy of all diversion records for that registered nurse, to the board's enforcement program. The board may use any of the records it receives under this subdivision in any disciplinary proceeding.

### 9. Code section 4060 states:

No person shall possess any controlled substance, except that furnished to a person upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.7, or furnished pursuant to a drug order issued by a certified nurse-midwife pursuant to Section 2746.51, a nurse practitioner pursuant to Section 2836.1, a physician assistant pursuant to Section 3502.1, a naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.5, or a pharmacist pursuant to either subparagraph (D) of paragraph (4) of, or clause (iv) of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (5) of, subdivision (a) of Section 4052. This section shall not apply to the possession of any controlled substance by a manufacturer, wholesaler, pharmacy, pharmacist, physician, podiatrist, dentist, optometrist, veterinarian, naturopathic doctor, certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, when in stock in containers correctly labeled with the name and address of the supplier or producer.

Nothing in this section authorizes a certified nurse-midwife, a nurse practitioner, a physician assistant, or a naturopathic doctor, to order his or her own stock of dangerous drugs and devices.

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1	10. Health and Safety Code section 11173, subdivision (a), states, in pertinent	
2	part:	
3	No person shall obtain or attempt to obtain controlled substances, or procure or attempt to procure the administration of or prescription for controlled substances, (1) by fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or subterfuge	
5	Cost Recovery	
6	11. Code section 125.3 provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request	
7	the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or	
8	violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation	
9	and enforcement of the case.	
10	CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AT ISSUE	
11	12. "Percocet", a brand of oxycodone, is a Schedule II controlled substance as	
12	designated by Health and Safety Code section 11055, subdivision (b)(1)(N).	
13	13. "Morphine" is a Schedule II controlled substance as designated by Health	
14	and Safety Code section 11055, subdivision (b)(1)(M).	
15	14. "N-desmethyldiaze" is a benzodiazepine and a Schedule IV controlled	
16	substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11057, subdivision (d)(9).	
17	15. "Oxazepam" is a Schedule IV controlled substance as designated by	
18	Health and Safety Code section 11057, subdivision (d)(23).	
19	16. "Hydrocodone" is a Schedule II controlled substance as designated by	
20	Health and Safety Code section 11055, subdivision (b)(1)J).	
21	17. "Hydromorphone", also known as "Dilaudid," is a Schedule II controlled	
22	substance as designated by Health and Safety Code section 11055, subdivision (b)(1)(K).	
23	RESPONDENT'S TERMINATION FROM BOARD'S	
24	DIVERSION PROGRAM AS A PUBLIC SAFETY THREAT	
25	18. In or about July 2005, Respondent was enrolled in the Board's Diversion	
26	Program. In or about September 2005, the Diversion Evaluation Committee ("DEC") terminated	
27	Respondent from the Diversion Program as a public safety threat. The DEC also found that	
28	Respondent lacked insight regarding her treatment, refused to follow the mandates of the	

Diversion Program and enter into residential treatment, continued using mind altering substances for pain control, and tested positive for opiates on August 11, 2005.

## FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (Diversion, Possession, and Self-Administration of Controlled Substances)

19. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Code section 2761, subdivision (a), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, as defined by Code section 2762, subdivision (a), in that on or about March 12, 2005, and August 11, 2005, while licensed as a registered nurse, Respondent did the following:

## **Diversion of Controlled Substances:**

a. On or about March 12, 2005, while on duty as a registered nurse at Hoag Memorial Hospital, Newport Beach, California, Respondent obtained the controlled substances Percocet and morphine by fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or subterfuge, in violation of Health and Safety Code section 11173, subdivision (a). Respondent withdrew various quantities of Percocet and morphine from the hospital's Pyxis machine under patients Linda B.'s and Margaret A.'s names, failed to administer the medications to the patients, and, by her own admission, kept the Percocet and morphine for her own personal use.

## Possession of Controlled Substances:

b. On or about March 12, 2005, while on duty as a registered nurse at Hoag Memorial Hospital, Newport Beach, California, Respondent was found in possession of one unit dose of Percocet and approximately .25 ccs of morphine, which she had taken from the hospital's Pyxis machine. Respondent possessed the medications without a valid prescription from a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor, in violation of Code section 4060.

# **Self-Administration of Controlled Substances:**

c. On or about March 12, 2005, Respondent self-administered the controlled substances N-desmethyldiaze and oxazepam without lawful authority therefor in violation of Code section 2762(a).

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d. On or about August 11, 2005, while enrolled in the Board's Diversion Program, Respondent self-administered the controlled substances hydrocodone and hydromorphone without lawful authority therefor in violation of Code section 2762(a).

## **SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

# (Use of Controlled Substances to an Extent or in a Manner Dangerous or Injurious to Oneself or Others)

20. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Code section 2761, subdivision (a), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, as defined by Code section 2762, subdivision (b), in that on or about March 12, 2005, while on duty as a registered nurse at Hoag Memorial Hospital, Newport Beach, California, Respondent used the controlled substances N-desmethyldiaze and oxazepam to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to herself and/or others or to the extent that such use impaired her ability to conduct her nursing duties safely. On the date indicated above, Respondent was observed by her charge nurse with slurred speech (Respondent was also unfocused and animated). Respondent submitted to a urine drug screen and tested positive for benzodiazepines, including N-desmethyldiaze and oxazepam.

# THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

# (False Entries in Hospital/Patient Records)

21. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Code section 2761, subdivision (a), on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, as defined by Code section 2762, subdivision (e), in that on or about March 12, 2005, while on duty as a registered nurse at Hoag Memorial Hospital, Newport Beach, California, Respondent falsified, or made grossly incorrect, grossly inconsistent, or unintelligible entries in hospital, patient, or other records pertaining to the controlled substances Percocet and morphine, as follows:

#### Patient Linda B.

a. On March 12, 2005, at 0940 hours, Respondent withdrew two tablets of Percocet from the Pyxis machine under patient Linda B.'s name, but failed to chart the administration of the Percocet in the patient's Medication Administration Record ("MAR") or nurse's notes or otherwise account for the disposition of the two Percocet tablets.

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1	b. On March 12, 2005, at 1120 hours, Respondent withdrew morphine 5 mg	
2	from the Pyxis machine under patient Linda B.'s name when, in fact, the physician's order called	
3	for the administration of 2 mg morphine. Further, Respondent made an entry in the Pyxis that	
4	she administered 2 mg of morphine to the patient and wasted the remaining 3 mg (the wastage	
5	was witnessed by another nurse), but failed to chart the administration of the 2 mg morphine in	
6	the patient's MAR or nurse's notes or otherwise account for the disposition of the 2 mg	
7	morphine.	
8	Patient Margaret A.	
9	c. On March 12, 2005, between 0917 and 0929 hours, Respondent withdrew	
10	two Percocet tablets from the Pyxis machine under patient Margaret A.'s name and made entries	
11	in the Pyxis that she administered one and a half tablets of the medication to the patient and	
12	wasted the remaining half tablet. Respondent failed to have the wastage of the half tablet of	
13	Percocet witnessed by another nurse or staff member and failed to chart the wastage of the half	
14	tablet of Percocet in the patient's MAR or nurse's notes or otherwise account for the half tablet	
15	of Percocet.	
16	<u>PRAYER</u>	
17	WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein	
18	alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Registered Nursing issue a decision:	
19	1. Revoking or suspending Registered Nurse License Number 539884, issued	
20	to Laura Lee Robinson, also known as Laura Lee Schubert;	
21	2. Revoking or suspending Public Health Nurse Certificate Number 59432,	
22	issued to Laura Lee Robinson, also known as Laura Lee Schubert;	
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26 27	///	
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1	3. Ordering Laura Lee Robinson, also known as Laura Lee Schubert, to pay
2	the Board of Registered Nursing the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this
3	case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3; and
4	4. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.
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6	DATED: <u>September 19, 2006</u> .
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8	RUTH ANN TERRY, M.P.H., R.N. Executive Officer
9	Board of Registered Nursing Department of Consumer Affairs
10	State of California
11	Complainant
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